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NSC BRIEFING 21 October 1954

SOVIET GUIDED MISSILES

- I. In approaching this complex subject, absolutely necessary make careful distinction between what we know for certain, what we have reason to suspect, and what we don't know, but are trying to find out.
 - A. First, know that Soviets, after World War II, showed intense interest in German missile experience took away German experts, some 400 of them: also took away missiles, prototypes, laboratories and plants.
 - By 1950, these Germans being phased out only some 50, mainly guidance and control specialists, still in USSR now.

B. Second, know Soviets have missile test range (KAPUSTIN

YAR, near Stalingrad).	

c. Also, know that USSR capable (in terms science, technology, economy) of supporting sizeable missile program.

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	D. Have good reason to suspect	
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	search organizations in the USSE are now involved in	
	missile research and development program.	
	1. Facilities apparently involve seven separate Soviet	
	Ministries and supported by Academy of Science.	
	E. From this evidence, US intelligence community is con-	
	vinced that USSR has an extensive guided missile program,	
	with result that US and allies face growing threat over	
	next years, (conclusion reached in recent National	
	Estimate).	25X1
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	. However, we don't know particulars of Soviet program -	
	that is, what kinds of missiles the USSR may now have on	
	hand, or under development.	
	G. Thus, in speaking of specific missiles, we are pre-	
	senting most tentative estimate.	
	1. Not based on firm current intelligence.	
	2. Instead, derived from estimated Soviet military	
	requirements	25X1
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	3. Thus based, estimate represents intelligence	
	community's "best guess" and views of eminent	
	outside consultants.	

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 11. Major factor which makes Soviet development guided missiles matter of critical concern is increasing size, efficiency
 - A. Both increased availability nuclear warheads and probable larger yields will make missile attacks increasingly practical.

of USSR's nuclear stockpile.

- Both factors help counterbalance inherent limitations in missile reliability, accuracy.
- III. Another major factor leading USSR to develop missile delivery systems will be the increasing cost of pressing home nuclear attacks with piloted aircraft as US and allied air defences improve.
- IV. Community's estimate (chart) shows types of missiles USSR expected develop and probable dates initial availability.
 - A. Because Soviet electronics and precision mechanisms
 (gyroscopes, etc.) industries represent bottlenecks, we
 believe USSR will probably concentrate, during next few
 years, on production types missiles for which most
 urgent need felt.
 - B. Will mention few of these which of particular concern to US.
- V. Very high priority will be production of missiles to overcome weakness of Soviet air defense. While repeating caveat
 that estimate necessarily tentative, we think USSR now has,
 or soon will have, following defensive missiles:
 - A. Could now have ready for series production, as "greend to-

German "WASSERFALL". By 1955, range of this missile Approved For Release 2004/02/02: CIA-RDP79R00890A000400020027-2

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 will be increased, and it could be equipped with semiactive radar homing. This approaches our "NIKE" in
 performance.
- B. Probably now have "air-to-air" rocket, infra-red guided, with mile range. By 1955, could have one with twice range (roughly equivalent our "SIDEWINDER").
- VI. Development of offensive missiles also estimated major Soviet concern. Think, for example, USSR would wish the following:
 - A. Almost certainly want "surface-to-surface" missiles suitable for submarine-launched attack on US and allied coastal areas. Could now have improved (200-mile range) "V-1". By 1955, could have own design jet "pilotless aircraft", with 500-mile range.
 - B. In "ballistic" (i.e., wingless, supersonic) missile field, will probably develop "family" of short and medium range "surface-to-surface" types over coming years. Could now have and probably will produce either short-range "native design" or improved (350-mile range) "V-2", as counter to allied tactical nuclear capabilities in Europe. However, quantity production more advanced types ballistic missiles will probably await future time, when improved allied air defense will make bombers (presently more reliable) a prohibitively costly means nuclear delivery. Meanwhile, development this "ballistic" family will be essential stage in evolution of ultimate missile threat.

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missile (IBM). We believe USSR will make concerted effort produce IBM, as counter to expected US production similar weapon and as potentially decisive means attack.

Such weapon,

could be ready for series production

by 1963, or -

1. If no major delays and all-out effort, this IBM could possibly be ready as early as 1969.

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1. Advent of IBM means entirely new type of threat to US.

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